

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

Jamie DeLorme, et al.,
*each individually and on behalf of
all others similarly situated,*

Plaintiffs,

Case No. 22-cv-968 (NEB/DTS)

**SECOND AMENDED
SCHEDULING ORDER**

v.

Big Think Capital, Inc.,

Defendant.

Pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of this Court, and in order to secure the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of this action, the following schedule will govern these proceedings unless modified pursuant to Local Rule 16.3.

Stipulated proposals to amend this Scheduling Order must establish good cause for the proposed amendment. Agreement between the parties is not sufficient. While a formal motion is not necessary if the parties agree on their proposals, only the Court may modify a scheduling order and the requirements of Local Rule 16.3 must be met.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DATES:

Joinder and Amended Pleadings Deadline: November 1, 2022

Fact Discovery Completion Deadline: **December 1, 2023**

Expert Deadlines

Disclosures: P – October 2, 2023 D - November 1, 2023

Depositions: December 1, 2023

Non-Dispositive Motion Deadline to Serve and File: **January 31, 2024**

Dispositive Motion Deadline to Serve and File: June 1, 2024

Trial Ready Date: October 1, 2024

INITIAL DISCLOSURES AND FACT DISCOVERY

1. The parties have made their initial disclosures under Rule 26(a)(1).

DISCOVERY LIMITATIONS

The parties have discussed the scope of discovery, including relevance and proportionality, and propose the following discovery limitations:

1. Written Discovery
 - A. No more than a total of 25 interrogatories, counted in accordance with Rule 33(a), shall be served by either side.
 - B. Unlimited document requests may be served by each side. Objections to document requests must meet the requirements of amended Rule 34(b)(2)(B).
 - C. Unlimited requests for admissions may be served by each side.
2. No more than 10 factual depositions, excluding expert witness depositions, shall be taken by each side.
3. The parties must commence fact discovery procedures in time to be completed on or before **December 1, 2023**.

PRESERVATION OF DOCUMENTS AND ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY

The parties have discussed the scope of discovery, including relevance and proportionality and any issues about preserving discoverable information. The parties have also discussed electronic discovery and agree upon the following:

The parties do not foresee that electronic discovery will be a significant issue in this case and have represented they will work together to resolve any disputes.

MOTIONS TO AMEND/NON-DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS

A. Dates

1. Motions seeking to join other parties must be filed and served by November 1, 2022.
2. Motions seeking to amend the pleadings must be filed and served by November 1, 2022.
3. All non-dispositive motions relating to *fact* discovery must be filed and

served by **January 31, 2024**.

4. All other non-dispositive motions, except a motion for class certification, must be filed and served by January 26, 2024. Deadlines dependent upon completion of fact discovery shall be adjusted accordingly upon the resolution of such motions, if appropriate.
5. The parties must meet and confer to resolve fact and expert discovery disputes when they arise, and if unresolved, bring discovery disputes promptly to the Court's attention.

B. Procedures for Discovery Disputes

The Court has both an informal and formal option for resolution of discovery disputes. The process utilized to resolve a particular dispute does not determine the process to be followed to resolve a subsequent dispute.

Informal Process

To invoke the informal process described herein, the parties must both agree to use it.

The parties schedule a telephonic hearing by calling Terianne, Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge Schultz, at 612-664-5460. Once the moving party has secured a hearing date, it must promptly file a notice of motion informing all parties of the nature of the motion and the date, time.

If the parties agree to resolve the dispute through the informal process, each side shall submit a letter, up to 5 pages, outlining their argument. Judge Schultz will issue a decision at the time of the hearing and the parties agree that no appeal of the ruling will be taken.

Formal Process

Discovery disputes will not be heard unless the parties have first met and conferred either in-person, telephonically, or by video and made a good-faith effort to settle their dispute, pursuant to revised Local Rule 7.1. **If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute after good-faith efforts, the party raising the unresolved issue must first have a telephone conference with Magistrate Judge Schultz before filing a formal motion.** No filings on discovery motions will be considered by the Court until the Court has first addressed the matter via conference call.

If a discovery motion is related to written discovery or the contents of depositions, the parties must fill out a chart (attached) that describes each disputed discovery request and response; each party's position, and the moving party's last offered compromise. This chart must be in Word format and emailed at least three business days before the hearing to chambers at: Schultz_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov. Failure to provide this chart to the Court as required by this scheduling order will result in the cancellation of the hearing.

C. Non-Discovery Non-Dispositive Motion Procedures

All non-dispositive motions must be scheduled for hearing by calling Terianne, Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge Schultz, at 612-664-5460 prior to filing, except when all parties agree that no hearing is required. Such an agreement must be expressly set forth in the notice of motion. Once the moving party has secured a hearing date, it must promptly file a notice of motion informing all parties of the nature of the motion and the date, time and location of the hearing, along with complete moving papers as required by Local Rule 7.1. A moving party may not call chambers to "hold" a motion date without filing complete moving papers as required by Local Rule 7.1 unless it receives prior permission from the Court.

Counsel may not notice additional motions for hearing on an already existing hearing date without first contacting the Court for permission. All motions must be filed and served within the time periods set forth in this Order and the Local Rules.

CLASS ACTION CERTIFICATION

Class certification motion due by February 16, 2024.

MERITS EXPERTS

1. Identification of Plaintiffs' merits experts under Rule 26(a)(2)(A) shall be completed on or before October 2, 2023.
2. Identification of Defendant's merits experts under Rule 26(a)(2)(A) shall be completed on or before November 1, 2023.
3. Expert discovery must commence to be complete by December 1, 2023.

DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS

All dispositive motions shall be **filed** by the moving party by June 1, 2024. All dispositive motions shall be scheduled, filed and served in compliance with the Electronic Case Filing procedures for the District of Minnesota and in compliance with Local

Rule 7.1. Counsel shall schedule the hearing by calling Kristine Wegner, Courtroom Deputy for District Judge Nancy E. Brasel, at 651-848-1530.

When a motion, response, or reply brief is filed on CM/ECF, two (2) paper courtesy copies of the pleading and all supporting documents shall be mailed or delivered to Kristine Wegner, Courtroom Deputy, contemporaneously with the documents being posted on CM/ECF. If the moving papers are more than one inch combined, the papers should be provided in a tabbed, 3-ring notebook.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no party shall bring a dispositive motion pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56 while formal discovery is ongoing without first obtaining permission from the undersigned magistrate judge. Permission shall be sought by electronically filing via CM/ECF a letter of no more than three (3) pages briefly setting forth the basis for the motion, whether discovery relating to the issue or issues to be addressed by the motion is complete, and why judicial efficiency would be served by allowing the motion to proceed at this time. The other party or parties may file brief letters in support of or in response to the request. Denial of a request for permission to file an interim dispositive motion shall not be taken as an indication of the Court's view about the merits of the proposed motion.

PRIVILEGE/PROTECTION

The parties agree to follow the procedure set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(5)(B) regarding information produced in discovery that is subject to a claim of privilege or protection as trial-preparation material. Pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502, the inadvertent production of any documents in this proceeding shall not constitute a waiver of any privilege or protection applicable to those documents.

PROTECTIVE ORDER

The parties intend to enter into a protective order. In the interim, any documents that any producing party believes should be governed by a protective order shall be produced to opposing counsel for the attorney's review only and shall not be withheld on the basis that no protective order is yet in place. After the protective order is entered, the producing party must designate the documents under the protective order. Local Rule 5.6 governs filing under seal. Any proposed protective order must include the following provisions: All counsel acknowledge they have reviewed Local Rule 5.6 which governs filing under seal, which procedures are incorporated herein by reference.

JOINT MOTIONS REGARDING CONTINUED SEALING PURSUANT TO LR 5.6

See separate order on Joint Sealing.

TRIAL

This case shall be ready for jury trial as of October 1, 2024. The parties estimate that trial of this matter will take 5 days.

PRACTICE POINTERS AND PREFERENCES

Please refer to Magistrate Judge David T. Schultz's Practice Pointers and Preferences which may be found on the Court's website.

Dated: January 20, 2023

s/David T. Schultz
DAVID T. SCHULTZ
U.S. Magistrate Judge

Case Name and Number _____

Several discovery responses have been identified as deficient in [the moving party's Motion to Compel (ECF No. _____)]. To assist the Court in more efficiently resolving the parties' discovery dispute, the parties shall meet and confer, and jointly complete the following chart. The purpose of this chart is not to repeat, or cut and paste, the arguments present in the parties' memoranda, but to identify succinctly each party's position and the compromise last offered at the meet and confer. Please attach additional sheets as necessary. At least three business days before the hearing, the fully completed chart shall be e-mailed to chambers at Schultz_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov

Discovery Request at Issue (state verbatim the request)	Moving Party's Position	Responding Party's Position	Moving Party's Last Offered Compromise	Responding Party's Last Offered Compromise	Court Notes

Counsel for Moving Party: _____

Counsel for Responding Party: _____

Date: _____